

I oppose any liberalization of Media Ownership rules that allow individual companies to own multiple over-the-air broadcast stations in the same metropolitan area. In Los Angeles, many AM stations are broadcasting syndicated talk shows that originate in other cities, with no local issue coverage. On weekends these same stations are re-broadcasting weekday syndicated talk shows. There is adequate radio talent available in Los Angeles to have live and local shows every day of the week, however, companies like Clear Channel and Disney/ABC will re-broadcast shows to simply save money instead of actually serving the public interest. News coverage on local stations is repetitive and pooled from a single source and broadcast on several stations, lacking any originality and diversity. Two local VHF stations in Los Angeles are now owned by CBS/ViaCom, that has reduced competition in news and public affairs programming. The Internet and Low Power Broadcasting are not viable alternatives, if they were, then the major broadcast companies would use them, but they do not. Clearly the FCC has totally lost sight of its mission to regulate the airwaves for benefit of the entire population. The FCC is now more sensitive to business interests than the public interest.

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